



— State of —  
**North Dakota**  
*Office of the Governor*  
**John Hoeven**  
*Governor*

February 14, 2002

Jack McGraw, Acting Director  
Environmental Protection Agency, Region 8  
999 18<sup>th</sup> St., Suite 300  
Denver, Colorado 80202

Re: State of North Dakota

Dear Jack:

Thank you for meeting with my office and the North Dakota Department of Health. I believe the recent discussions have been useful as North Dakota seeks to maintain its air quality and foster economic growth. I want to continue that cooperative arrangement.

North Dakota is exercising its lead role under the EPA-approved federal Clean Air Act PSD program. Complex issues have been raised in these discussions that are novel and need resolution. We will begin a state process that considers public input to assess and resolve those issues and ask for EPA's continued cooperation. The State will implement this process no later than the end of March 2002 and I ask for EPA to participate in that effort. You can discuss the mechanics and specifics with members of my administration.

In the meantime, I would like to confirm that EPA will not distribute or post on its website, technical analyses regarding the State program. By working cooperatively in the state process I have suggested above, we can reach a fair resolution of these issues that will include public comment.

These steps are consistent with the President's recent announcement, and my conversation with Administrator Whitman and will provide for cleaner air and economic growth in North Dakota.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of John Hoeven in black ink.

John Hoeven,  
Governor

38:04:49

600 E Boulevard Ave  
Bismarck, ND 58505-0001  
Phone: 701.328.2200  
Fax: 701.328.2205  
[www.discovernd.com](http://www.discovernd.com)